

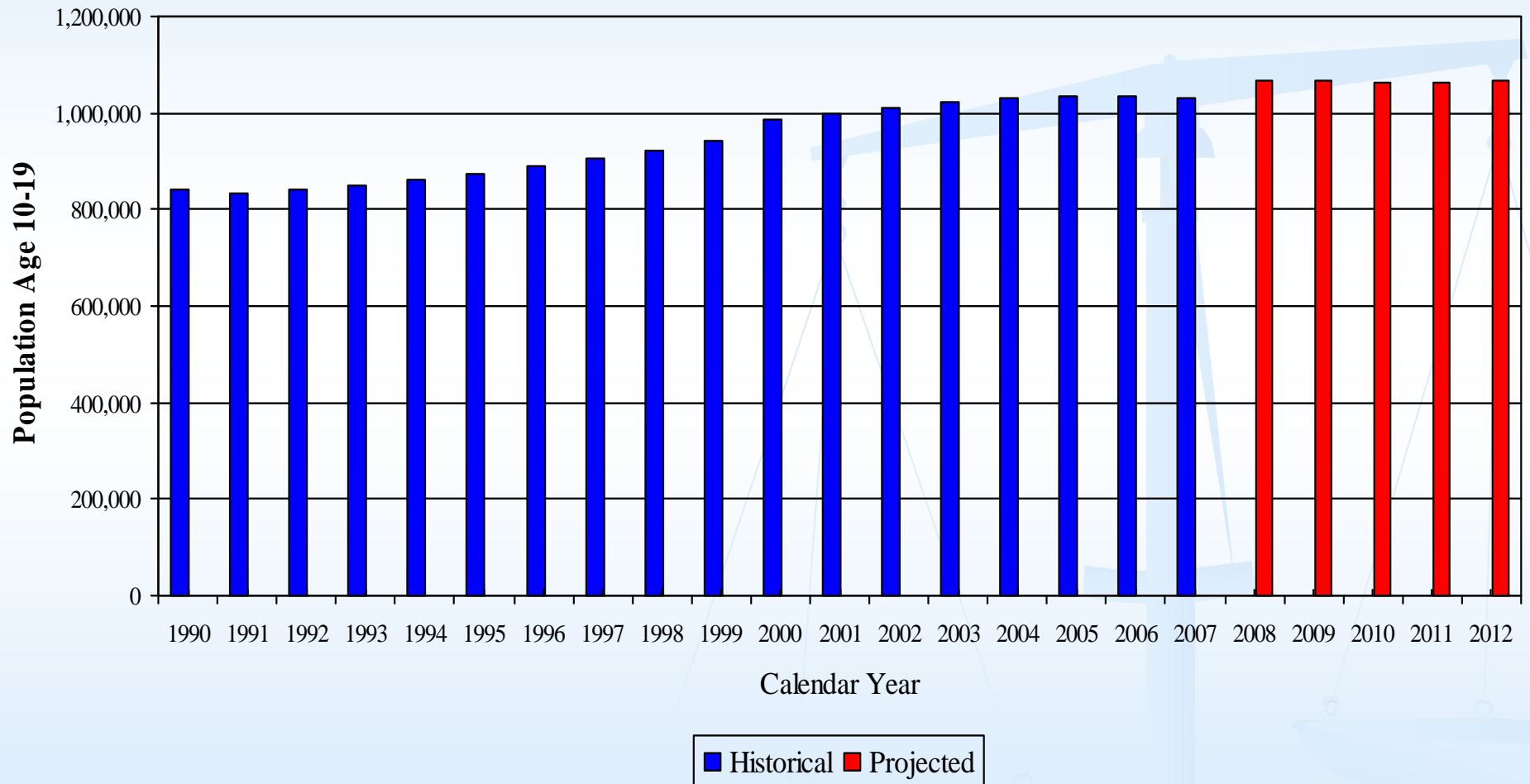
Juvenile Trends: Successes and Challenges



Judicial Conference
August, 2008

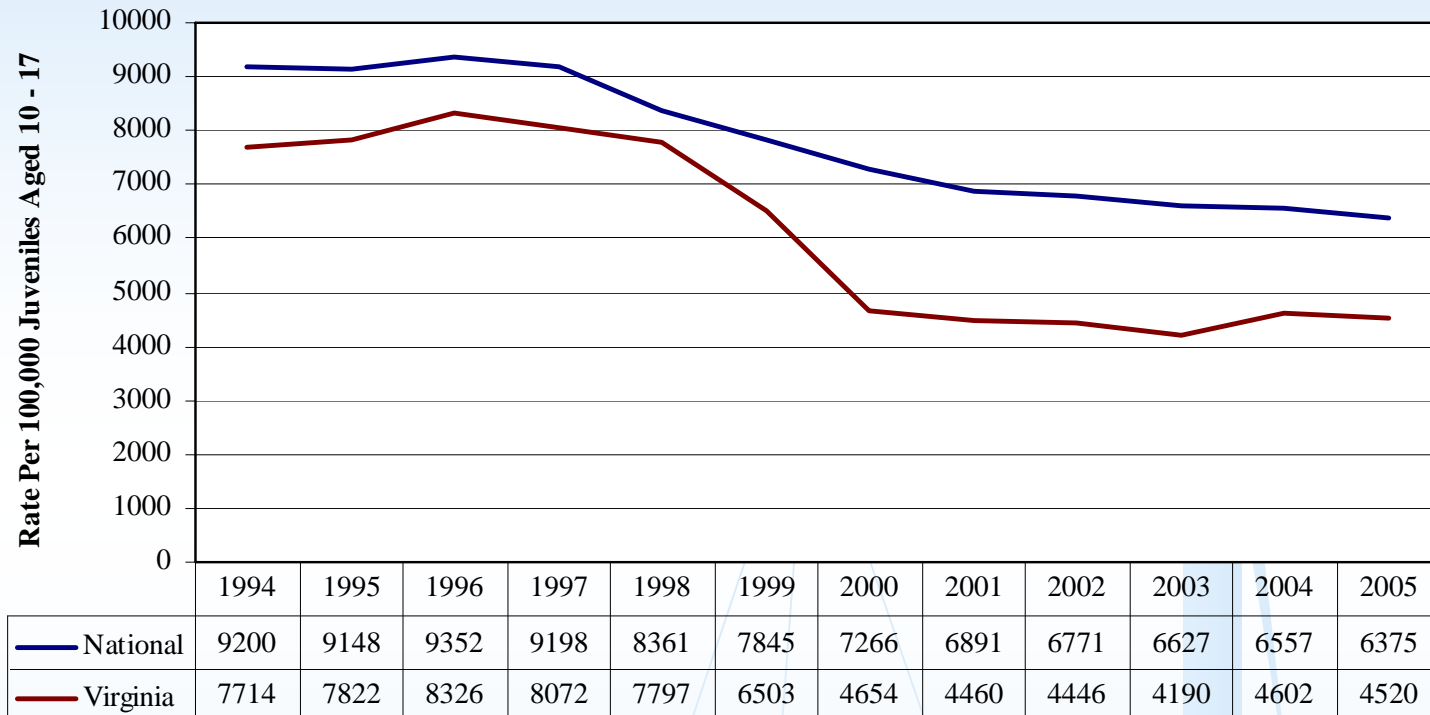
Barry Green, Director
Sam Abed, Chief Deputy Director
Department of Juvenile Justice

Virginia's Population: Age 10-19 Years Historical and Projected



National* vs. Virginia Trends

Total Juvenile Arrest Rate



*National Juvenile Arrest data is not yet available for 2006 or 2007.

- Between 1994 and 2005, the total arrest rate of juveniles in Virginia, while following the same general trend, is **lower** than that of the national rate.
- The juvenile arrest rate for all offenses in Virginia and nationally reached its highest level in 1996 (since 1980), and then declined through 2005.
- From **1998 to 2000**, while both the Virginia and national rates declined (40.3% and 13.1%, respectively), Virginia's rate declined at a much more rapid pace.
 - Much of this decline appears to be resultant of a decline in the Property Crime Index arrest rate.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

- According to the July 1, 2007 VA Census, 23.2% of 10-17 year olds are black.
- In FY2008*, black juveniles represented:
 - 44.6% at intake
 - 55.0% at detention
 - 66.1% at commitment
- While overall numbers of intakes, detention admissions and commitments to the state have declined, minority representation has continued to reflect an imbalance.

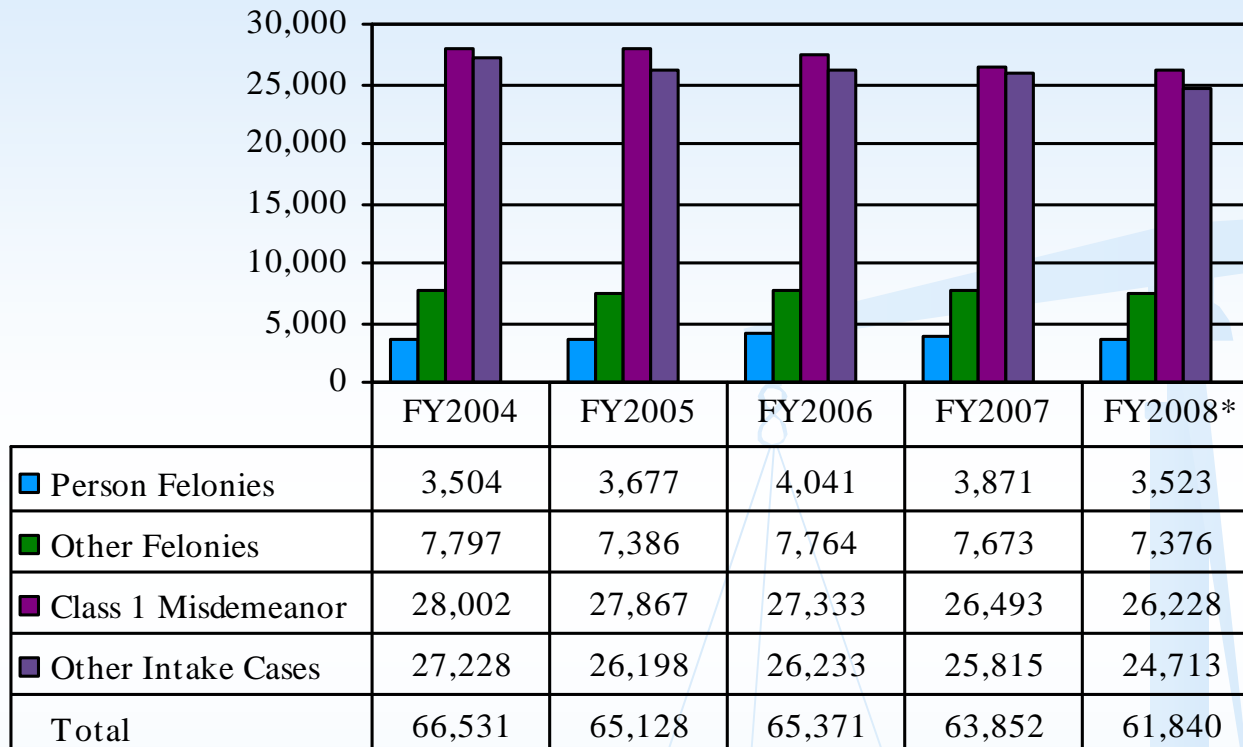
* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

A faint, light blue background image of a balance scale, symbolizing justice or equity. The scale is tilted slightly to the right.

Juvenile Intakes

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities

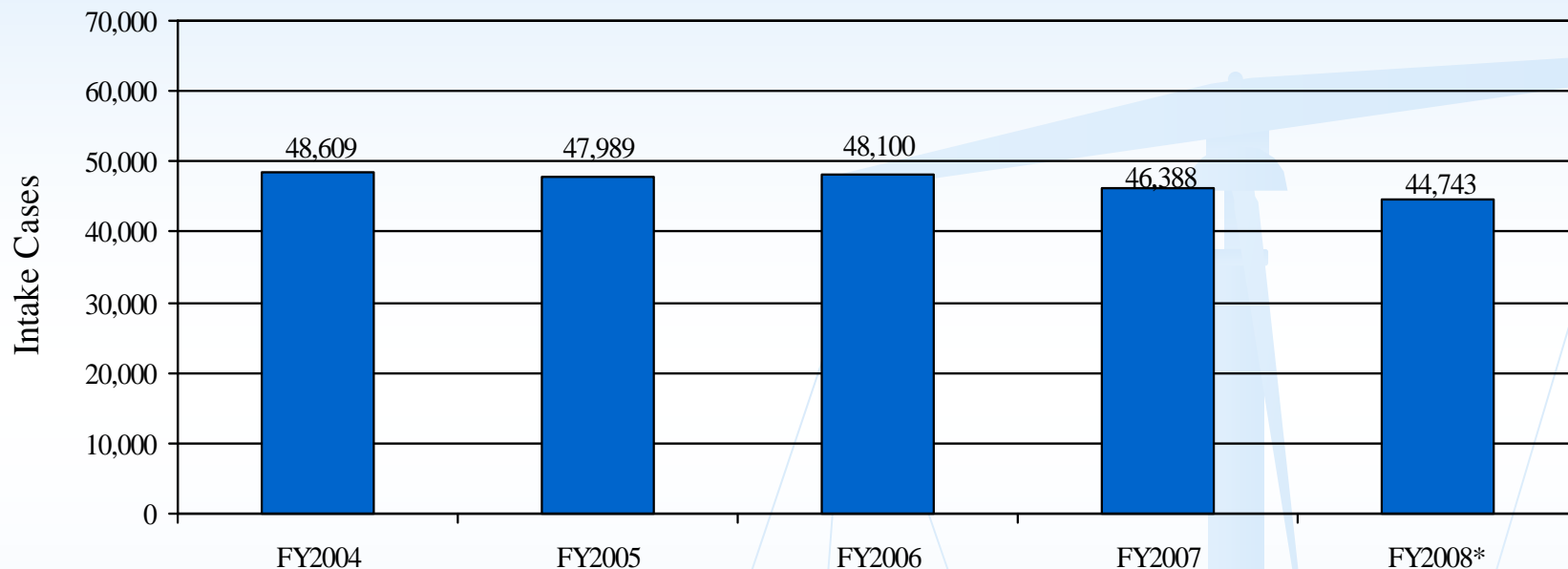
Juvenile Intake Cases FY2004 – FY2008



- There has been a 7.1% decrease in total intake cases between FY2004 and FY2008.
- Between FY2007 and FY2008:
 - Felony and class 1 misdemeanor intake cases decreased by 2.4%.
 - Felony intake cases decreased by 5.6%.
 - Person felonies decreased by 9.0%, and other felonies decreased by 4.0%.
 - Class 1 misdemeanor intake cases decreased by 1.0%.

* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

Intake Cases: Detention Eligible FY2004 – FY2008



- Detention eligible intake cases include all intake cases for which there is a felony or class 1 misdemeanor, violation of court order, and violation of probation and parole.
- There has been an 8.0% decrease in detention eligible intake cases from FY2004 to FY2008.

* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

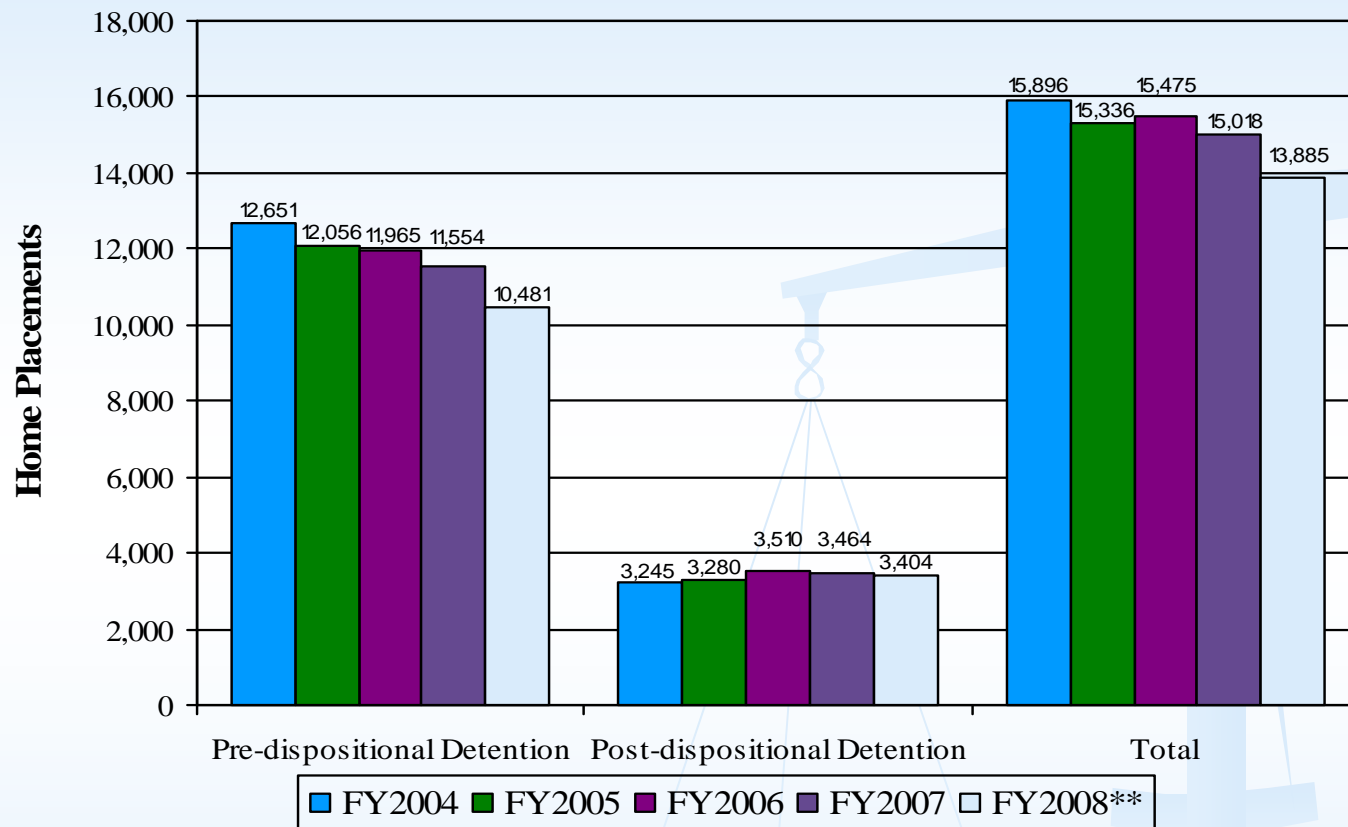


Detention Responsible Juvenile Population Trends

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities

Juvenile Detention Home Placements*

FY2004 – FY2008



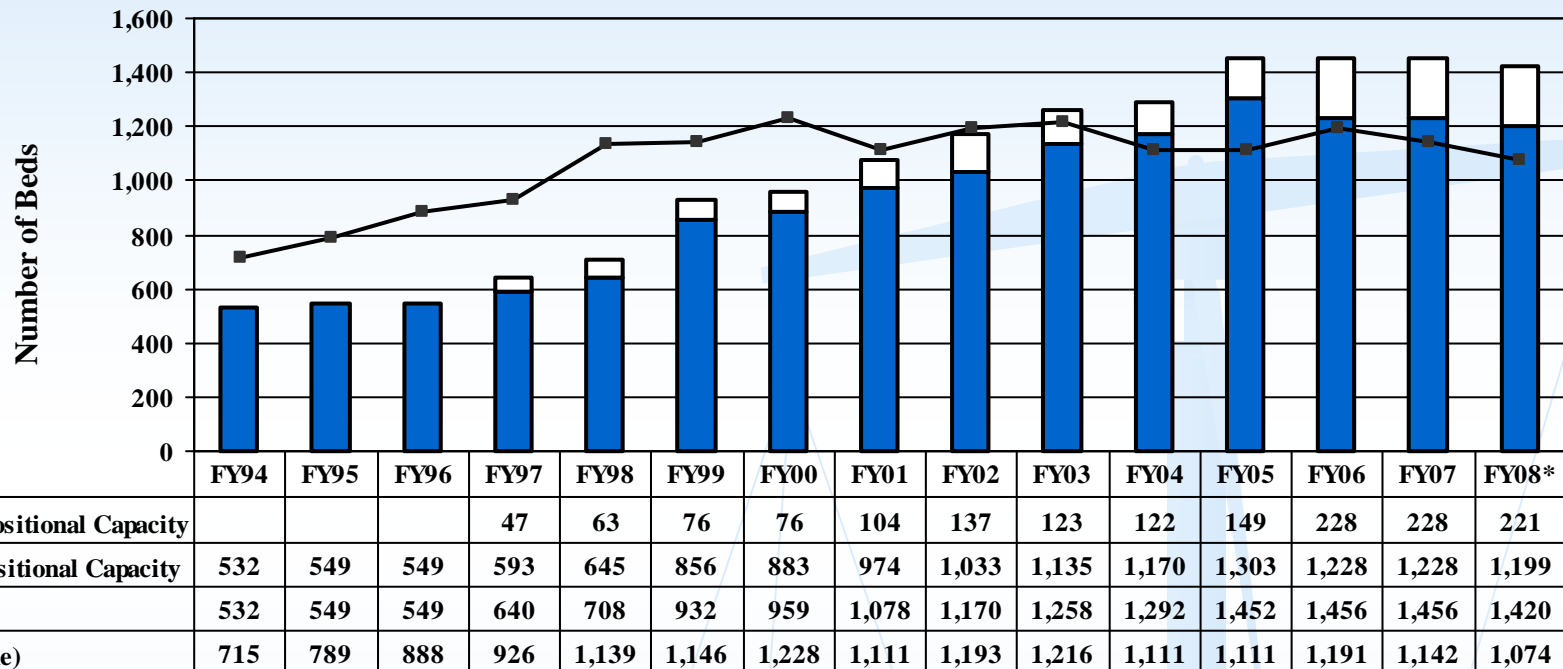
- Since FY2004, there has been a 12.7% decrease in total juvenile detention home placements. Pre-dispositional detention home placements decreased 17.2%, and post-dispositional detention home placements increased 4.9%.
- Post-dispositional detention home placements include post-d and post-d with programs.

* Juveniles with multiple pre-d and post-d placements are counted at the first placement.

For example, if a juvenile is placed in pre-d twice, only one placement is included in the count.

** FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

Detention Home Capacity and ADP FY1994 – FY2008



* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

Capacity Expansion between FY2002 and FY2006

There were no expansions during FY2007 or FY2008.

FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006
Highlands 20 to 30	Blue Ridge** 40	Shenandoah Valley 32 to 55	Virginia Beach** 90	Highlands 31 to 35
Piedmont** 20	Chesterfield 33 to 90		Newport News 40 to 110	
W.W.Moore 30 to 60	Prince William 40 to 72			
Roanoke 48 to 81				

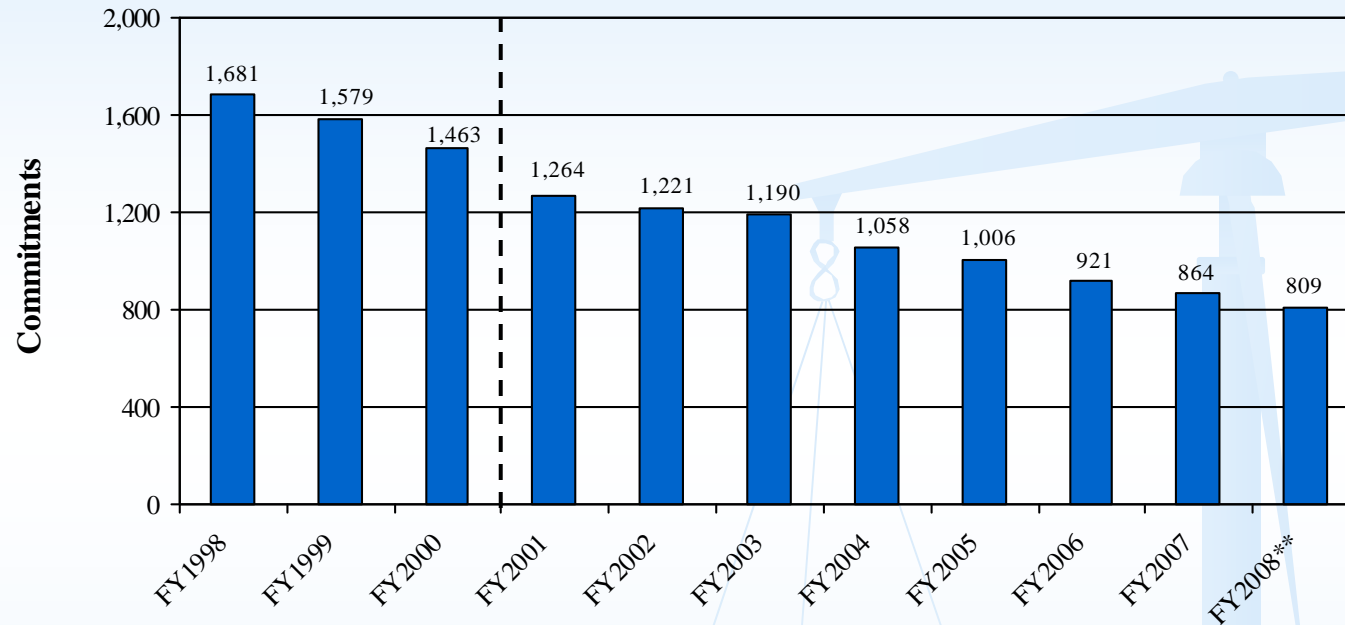
** Denotes a new facility



JCC Responsible Juvenile Population Trends

The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities

State Responsible Juvenile Offender Commitments* FY1998 – FY2008

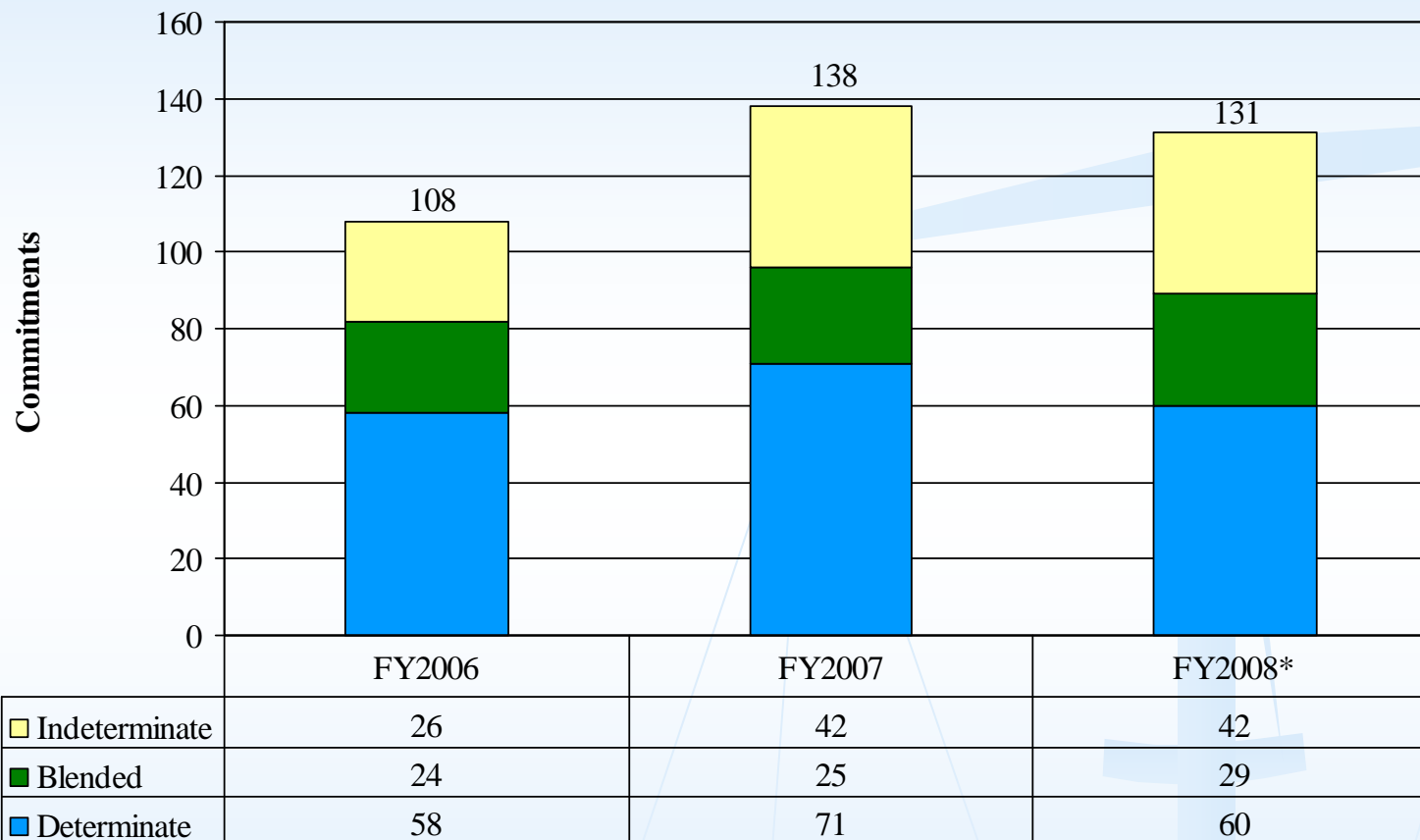


- Commitments have continued to decline since FY1998. Commitments have decreased by 51.9% since FY1998.
- In July 2000, the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ changed from *two* class 1 misdemeanors to *four* class 1 misdemeanors (guilty adjudications).

* Appealed cases are included.

** FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

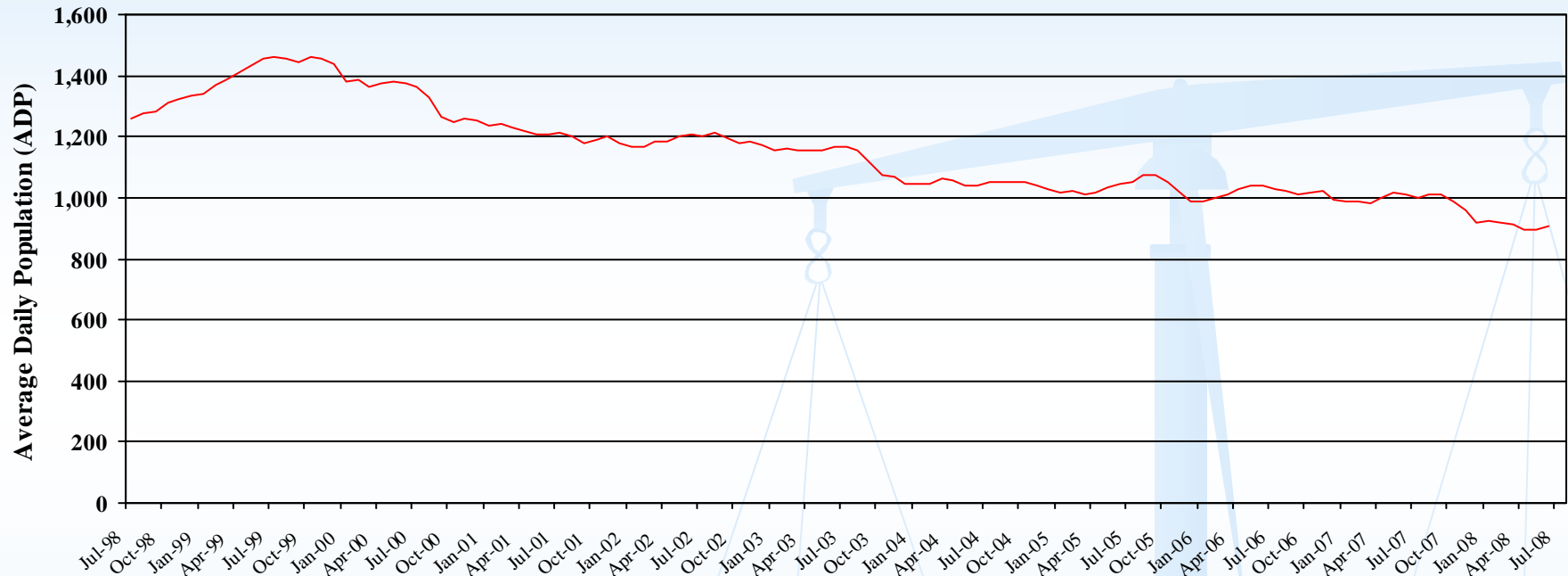
Circuit Court Commitments



* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

State Responsible Juvenile Population FY1999 – FY2008

In July 2000, the eligibility criteria for commitment to DJJ changed from *two* Class 1 misdemeanors to *four* Class 1 misdemeanors (guilty adjudications) without a felony.



- The average daily population (ADP) for state responsible juvenile offenders peaked in October 1999, with an ADP of 1,462.
- The monthly ADP has declined steadily since October 1999. The ADP fell below 1,200 in FY2002 and has remained there. During FY2006 the ADP fell below 1,000 for the first time, and during FY2008 the ADP fell below 900 for the first time.
- The ADP for FY2008 was 945 juveniles; the June ADP in 2008 was 906.

The Current Population Profile of JCCs

The population on July 1, 2008* was:

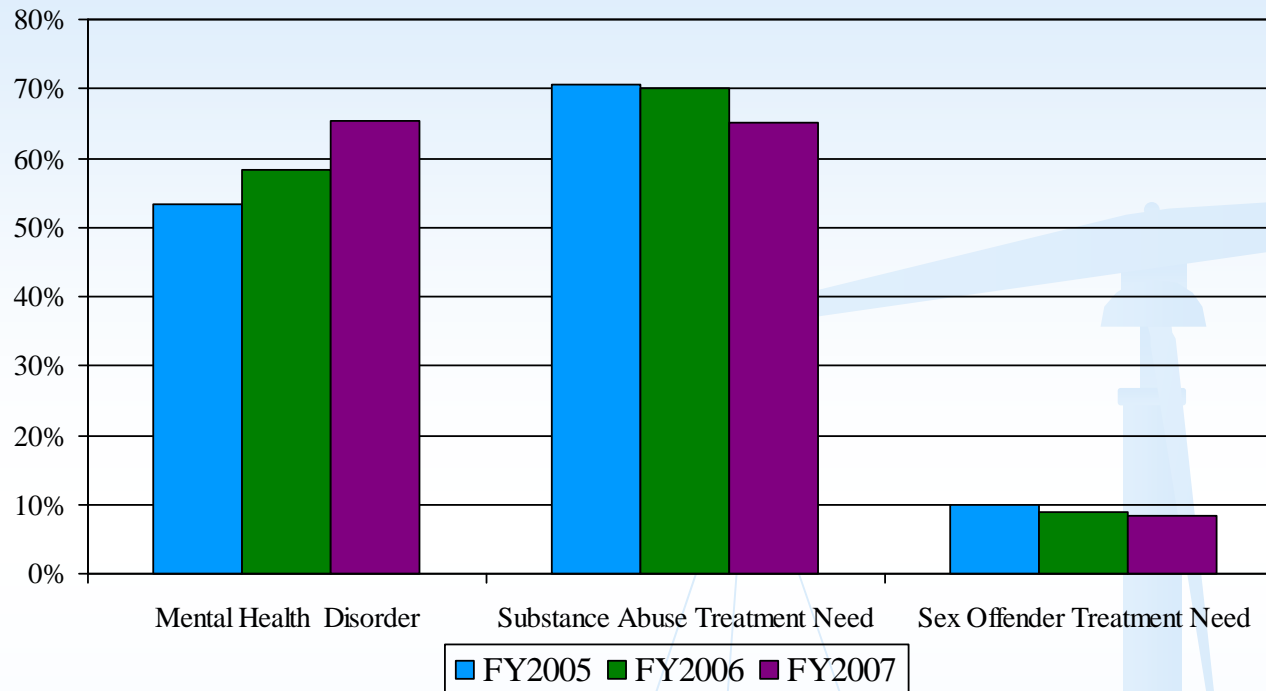
- 909 total juveniles
 - 276 (30%) juveniles with a circuit court commitment
 - 63 juveniles with a blended sentence
 - 331 (36%) were 18 years old or older
 - 572 (63%) require mental health treatment
 - 531 (58%) were committed for felonies against persons (up from 45% on July 1, 2003)

* FY2008 data may change due to time lag.

In recent years the characteristics of juveniles committed to DJJ has changed.

- Determinate and blended commitments, as a percent of total commitments, have increased since FY2000.
- Determinate sentences appear to have stabilized at longer sentences (about 40 months on average).
- Longer indeterminate lengths of stay have increased dramatically since 1996 as a percentage of commitments.
- ADP has declined steadily since October 1999.
 - Longer lengths of stay appear to be offset by declining admissions. These factors contribute to the drop in ADP.
 - During FY2006 the ADP fell below 1,000 for the first time, and during FY2008 the ADP fell below 900 for the first time.
 - The ADP for FY2008 was 945 juveniles.

Treatment Needs for Juveniles Admitted to the JCCs*



- Data for FY2008 are not included because the database currently reflects only those juveniles received at RDC through April 2008.
- The percentage of juveniles with a mental health disorder according to the DSM-IV diagnostic criteria increased 12% between FY2005 and FY2007. This includes juveniles with a depressive disorder and excludes those with Conduct Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, and Substance Abuse/Dependence Disorder.
- Trends for juveniles with a Substance Abuse and Sex Offender treatment need have remained relatively stable in the years reported. However, admissions with a Substance Abuse treatment need showed a 6% decrease between FY2005 and FY2007.

* Percentages will not add to 100% because a juvenile can have more than one treatment need.

Changing the JCC Environment

- Focus on preparing residents to return home
- REACH – new incentive based behavioral management system
- Unit management
- Improved coordination with Department of Correctional Education
- Assessment and revision to substance abuse treatment
- Increased socialization (intramural programming; cognitive based programming)

Preparing for Reentry

- Pilot reentry through local detention
- Creation of specialized transition parole officers
- MOU with Department of Rehabilitative Services
- Mental Health transition planning
- Work release
- Additional parole assessment for major offenders
- Implementation of 'Phoenix' social and anti-gang educational program

Recidivism



The Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice – Successful Youth, Strong Families, Safe Communities

Recidivism

- Official measure is percentage of those who are reconvicted of a Class 1 Misdemeanor or of a Felony based on an arrest made within 12 months of:
 - Release from JCC
 - Placement onto probation

Notes:

- States do not use a consistent definition for recidivism, so comparisons are difficult.
- Based upon an analysis of available data from other states, Virginia experiences a lower recidivism rate than most other states.

Recidivism for Probation

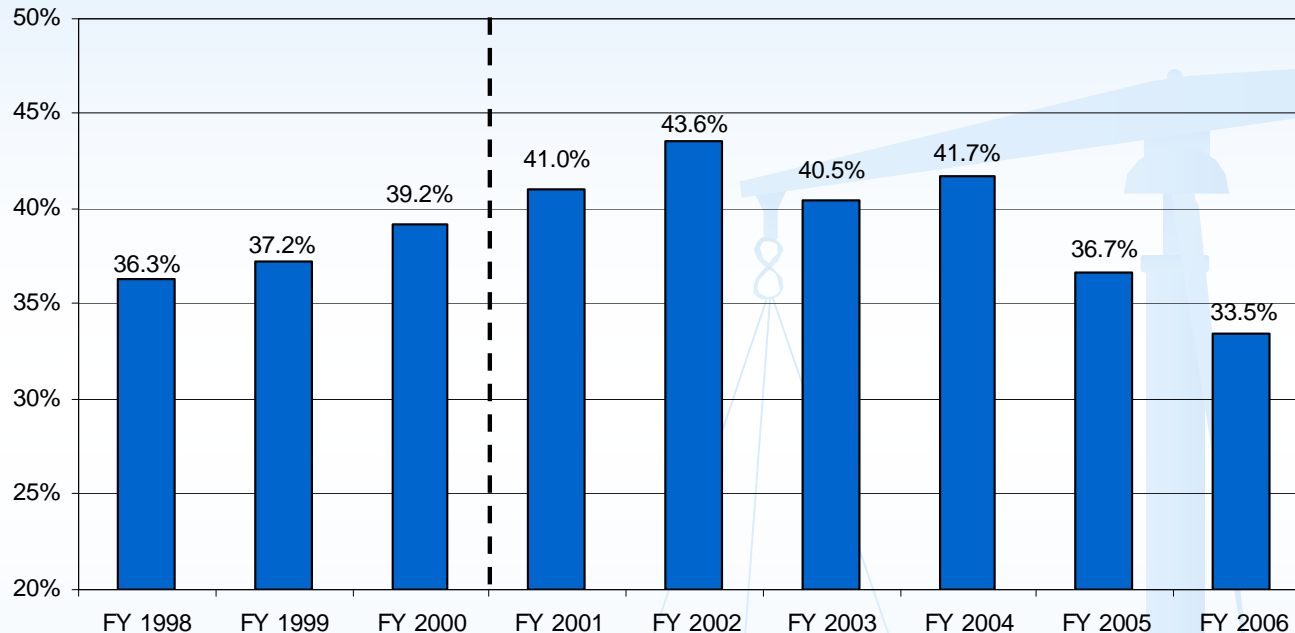
- Has remained fairly consistent over past 6 years.
- Range of 25.8% to 26.5%
- Has not increased even though a number of juveniles who previously would have been committed to the state are now placed into alternative programs, on probation.

Recidivism for Committed Youth

- Ranged from 40.5% to 43.6% for those released between 2001 and 2004.
- Has declined by over 8% for those released from 2004 through 2006.
- For those released in 2006, 36% of recidivist offenses were Misdemeanors; 64% were Felonies.

12-Month Reconviction Rates

JCC Releases FY1998- FY2006



*The line denotes the amendment of §16.1-278.8.14 which modified the commitment criteria to a minimum of four misdemeanors.

- The 12-month reconviction rate for JCC Releases decreased 8.2% from FY 2004 to FY 2006.
 - New offenses consist of approx. 2/3 felonies, 1/3 misdemeanors.

JCC Sex Offender Recidivism

- 513 sex offenders were released from Juvenile Correctional Centers from FY2002 through FY2006.
- Each sex offender was tracked from the date of release through FY2007.
- Total of 13 released were arrested and convicted of a new sex offense.

JCC Sex Offenders Recidivism (cont.)

<u>Release Year</u>	<u># Released</u>	<u># New Sex Offenses through FY2007</u>
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2002	115
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3

2003	92
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1

2004	98
------	----

6

2005	101
------	-----

1

2006	<u>107</u>
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<u>2</u>

Totals	513
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13

Length of Stay Guidelines

- Board of Juvenile Justice is charged by § 66.1-10(8) with adopting length of stay guidelines for indeterminately committed youth.
- Changes adopted by the Board at its June 2008 meeting.

Significant LOS Guideline Changes

Misdemeanants:

- No more than 12 months in direct care without a case review.

Serious institutional offenses:

- When an incarcerated juvenile commits an act that is criminally prosecuted, no additional administrative sanction is imposed.

Unclassified non-person felonies with a maximum sentence of more than 20 years:

- Aligns LOS more closely to time served by adults for similar charges.

Challenges

- State Budget – Lowered expectations for General Fund revenue collections
- Existing, and potential for additional, budget reductions for state agencies and local aid
- Fiscal stresses at local government level
- Impacts on JCCs, Probation and Parole, VJCCCA, Detention, and other state and locally funded juvenile programs

Additional Information

- Length of Stay Guideline Changes
- Gang Management at DJJ

